

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 CU-02 H-02 /016 W

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R 090820Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO USIA WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 8585

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 6211

USIAC

USIA FOR IOP/F, STATE FOR DENNIS KUX

E. O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE FOR NEWSMAN

1. K. RANGASWAMY, FORMERLY POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT IN NEW DELHI FOR THE HINDU PLANS TO VISIT WASHINGTON FOR THREE DAYS, STARTING MAY 19, SINCE HIS RETIRMENT FROM THE HINDU IN 1970 RANGASWAMY HAS BEEN PUBLISHING A DELHI POLITICAL LETTER, CALLED "FOREIGN NEWS AND FEATURES." WHILE THIS WEEKLY HAS LITTLE INFLUENCE (ITS CIRCULATION IS ONLY 260), RANGASWAMY IS AN INTELLIGENT, PLEASANT (IF SOMEWHAT SENSITIVE) GENTLEMAN WHO IS WELL DISPOSED TO AMERICA AND TO THE WEST IN GENERAL. HE IS RESPECTED HERE BY SOME OLDER INDIAN POLITICIANS, JORNALISTS AND EDITORS, AND WHEN HE WAS WITH THE HINDU WAS HELD IN GREAT RESPECT AND HAD CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE. HE CONTINUES TO HAVE A CERTAIN INFLUENCE WHICH EXTENDS BEYOND HIS PRESENT POSITION.

2. WHILE IN WASHINGTON HE WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS HIMSELF TO THE QUESTIONS: WHY IS IT THAT THE AMERICAN AND INDIAN DEMOCRACIES CANNOT GET CLOSER TOGETHER; WHAT ARE THE PULLS AND PRESSURES ON EACH SIDE; WHAT IS THE BASIC AMERICAN THINKING ABOUT INDIA.

3. FOR THIS PURPOSE HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH THE INDIA DESK OFFICERS AT THE DEPARTMENT AND USIA, WITH SENIOR AMERICAN JOURNALISTS AND, IF POSSIBLE, WITH SOME SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN.

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(WE HAVE NOT ENCOURAGED HIM ON THE LATTER.)

4. RANGASWAMY, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, WILL STOP FIRST IN WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, TO VISIT A MARRIED DAUGHTER; THEN GO ON TO WASHINGTON ALONE.

5. WE SUGGESTED TO RANGASWAMY THAT SOON AFTER ARRIVING IN DELAWARE HE SHOULD TELEPHONE HOYT WARE, AT THE USIA FOREIGN PRESS CENTER TO ARRANGE HIS PROGRAM; ALSO TO HAVE A MODESTLY-PRICED HOTEL ROOM BOOKED IN WASHINGTON. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT WHILE IN WASHINGTON HE SEE DENNIS KUX AND GILBERT AUSTIN OR CHRISTOPHER SNOW.

6. IN NEW YORK (WHERE RANGASWAMY SAYS HE NEEDS LESS HELP) HE WAS GIVEN THE NAME OF WILLIAM STRICKER.

7. RANGASWAMY HAD SOUGHT US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HIS TRIP AND HAD BEEN DISAPPOINTED WHEN WE COULD NOT OFFER IT. ANYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE TO MAKE MR. RANGASWAMY'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON PLEASANT AND PRODUCTIVE WOULD BE APPRECIATED. HEMSING

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